

REMARKS

Initially, in the Office Action dated March 28, 2003, the Examiner has required a new title of the invention. Further, the abstract of the disclosure has been objected to. The drawings have been objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR § 1.84(p)(4).

Claims 1-5, 7, 8 and 10-14 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,739,879 (Tsai). Claim 16 has been rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsai.

The Examiner indicates that claims 6 and 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By the present response, Applicant has amended Fig. 1 to further clarify the invention. Further, Applicant has amended the specification to further clarify the invention. Applicant has submitted a new title of the invention. Moreover, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 15 to further clarify the invention. Applicant has submitted new claims 17 and 18 for consideration by the Examiner. Claims 1-18 remain pending in the present application.

Examiner review of proposed claim amendments

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his review and comment on Applicant's proposed claim amendments sent to the Examiner by facsimile on June 25, 2003.

Allowable subject matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 6 and 9 contain allowable subject matter.

Claim 15

Applicant notes that the Examiner has not asserted any prior art rejections or other rejections for claim 15. Applicants therefore assume that this claim is allowed.

Title of the invention

The Examiner has required a new title of the invention. Applicant has submitted a new Title of the Invention to comply with the Examiner's request.

Abstract objection

The Examiner has objected to abstract of the disclosure. Applicant has submitted a new Abstract and respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

Drawings objections

The drawings have been objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR § 1.84(p)(4). Applicants have submitted an amended Fig. 1 with the designation of "prior art". Regarding the terms "rear substrate" and "rear substrate layer", Applicant submits that these terms would be easily understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to refer to the same object. Similarly, it would be easily understood that the terms "reflective layer" and "reflector" are the same item. However, to further prosecution of the present application, Applicant has amended the specification to further clarify the invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that these objections be withdrawn.

35 USC §102 rejections

Claims 1-5, 7, 8 and 10-14 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,739,879 (Tsai).

Tsai discloses a backlighting device for liquid crystal displays that includes a UV lamp with a UV transmitting quartz envelope for emitting and transmitting UV light, a light guide disposed in front of the UV lamp, a lamp holder with a UV-reflecting interior surface, and a fluorescent layer placed between the quartz envelope of the UV lamp and the proximal edge surface of the light guide capable of converting UV light into visible light.

Regarding claim 1 (and non-rejected claim 15), Applicant submits that Tsai does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of each of these claims of, inter alia, an electronic display including a radiation source and a layer associated with the radiation source, wherein the layer comprises a light guide imbedded with a matrix of fluorescent particles that emit visible light to illuminate the display in response to operation of the radiation source. Tsai teaches that the fluorescent layer is separate from the light guide (see Fig. 8, items 81 and 80 respectively, and col. 8, line 67 – col. 9, line 1). Moreover, the portions of Tsai cited by the Examiner (col. 8, lines 24-44) merely disclose that the fluorescent coating composition layer 65 is coated on the lamp 66 and how the angle and thickness of the coating are determined (see Fig. 6). Here again, the fluorescent material in Tsai is not embedded in the light guide, as recited in the claims of the present invention.

Regarding claims 2-5, 7, 8 and 10-14, Applicant submits that these claims are dependent on independent claim 1 and, therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted regarding this independent claim.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Tsai does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of each of claims 1-5, 7, 8 and 10-15. Applicant respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

35 USC §103 rejections

Claim 16 has been rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsai. Applicant submits that claim 16 is dependent on independent claim 15 and, therefore, is patentable at least for the same reasons noted previously regarding this independent claim. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Tsai does not disclose, suggest or render obvious the limitations in the combination of claim 16 of the present application. Applicant respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn and that this claim be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-18 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

US Patent Nos. 5,027,258 and 5,136,483 (both to Schoniger et al.)

In response to Applicant's proposed claim amendments and remarks sent to the Examiner June 25, 2003, the Examiner asserted that the proposed amendment still failed to place the application in condition for allowance based on the newly found Schoniger et al. references. The Examiner asserted that "the display being "electronic" . . . [is] a limitation [that] could be considered intended use since it is in the preamble." Applicant disagrees with the Examiner and asserts that the claims in the present application recite an electronic display and are not anticipated or obvious

in view of a non-electronic display. However, Applicant has amended the claims to further clarify the invention by moving this limitation into the body of the claims.

Regarding the Schoniger et al. references, Applicant submits that these references are not relevant to the limitations in the claims of the present application since these references disclose and relate to non-electronic devices. Both references relate to optical devices and not electronic display devices. Moreover, neither of these references disclose, suggest or render obvious a display including a radiation source and a layer associated with the radiation source, wherein the layer comprises a light guide imbedded with a matrix of fluorescent particles that emit visible light to illuminate the display in response to operation of the radiation source, wherein the display comprises an electronic display, as recited in the claims of the present application.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that claims 1-18 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned “Version with markings to show changes made.”

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing case No. 367.40919TRN) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version with markings to show changes made

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting on page 3, line 13.

--An exploded view of the main components of a prior art LCD 1 is illustrated in Figure 1 and it will be seen that it comprises an active layer comprising a liquid crystal layer 2 sandwiched between a pair of plastic optically non-birefringent front and rear substrate layers 3a, 3b. A thin transparent film 4 of conductive material is applied to the back surface of front substrate layer 3a facing the liquid crystal layer 2 which is then etched to form character segments (not shown). A second transparent conductive film 6 is applied to the surface of the rear substrate layer 3b facing the liquid crystal layer 2. Each film 4, 6 is treated with a polymer alignment layer (not shown) which is rubbed to form a series of parallel microscopic grooves. A polarising filter 7,8 is then positioned over each of the plastic substrate layers 3a, 3b with their planes of polarisation oriented at right angles to each other and so that the plane of polarisation of each filter corresponds to the grooves formed in its adjacent substrate. A pair of supporting layers 11a, 11b sandwich each polarizing filter 7,8.--

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting on page 3, line 28.

--A [reflective layer] reflector 9 is also located on the back of the LCD behind polarising filter 8 and the back light comprises a plurality of LEDs 12 positioned around the perimeter of the LCD (only three of which are shown in Figure 1).--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) [An electronic] A display including a radiation source and a layer associated with the radiation source, wherein the layer comprises a light guide imbedded with [contains] a matrix of fluorescent particles that emit visible light to illuminate the display in response to operation of the radiation source, wherein the display comprises an electronic display.

15. (Amended) A telecommunications device incorporating [an electronic] a display including a radiation source and a layer associated with the radiation source, wherein the layer comprises a light guide embedded with [contains] a matrix of fluorescent particles that emit visible light to illuminate the display in response to operation of the radiation source, wherein the display comprises an electronic display.